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AFGHANISTAN

THE SOVIET UNION WILL TAKE "EVERY NECESSARY MEASURE" TO STOP VIOLATIONS OF ITS BORDERS, AN 18 APRIL TASS STATEMENT WARNED. TASS DISCLOSED THAT TWO SOVIET BORDER GUARDS WERE KILLED WHEN AFGHAN BUSHMANS CROSSED THE PIANDZH RIVER AND ATTACKED THEIR DETACHMENT THE NIGHT OF 8-9 APRIL. THE AFGHANS SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES AND RETREATED IN DISARRAY, THE STATEMENT NOTED.

PREP
USSR

"IMPORTANT" DRA-USSR AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED 18 APRIL BY SOLTAN ALI KESHTMAND, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CHAIRMAN, AND K.F. KATUSHEV, CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR STATE COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS, KABUL RADIO REPORTED. THE DOCUMENTS COVER R30 MILLION IN AID TO EDUCATION, PUBLIC HEALTH, INFORMATION, AND COMMUNICATION AS WELL AS ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF AFGHANISTAN'S PRIVATE SECTOR. AT A LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION, KESHTMAND EMPHASIZED THAT THE "VALUABLE ASSISTANCE" WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AFGHANISTAN'S POLICY OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE SOVIET DELEGATION ATTENDED THE OPENING OF THE FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PRIVATE INVESTORS WHERE PDPA GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIBULLAH SPOKE ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S ROLE IN COMBATING "BACKWARDNESS" BY STRENGTHENING THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY.

(ENDALL)

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